



Universal Acceptance Day Uruguay - May 26 , 2025

Statistics for Uruguay, summary of measurements and the work of the Email Address Internationalization (EAI) Working Group

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Nicolás Fiumarelli :

Well, we've already seen what universal acceptance is. The idea is that any domain name and any email address in any application can communicate with the same as any other. In particular, we are interested in this, not business with the Chinese, business with Arabs in Uruguay. If one does not have their server configured to be able to talk to them, business is being lost. The same thing is happening: the government often has to communicate with other countries. In other words, there are times when, out of necessity, these things are implemented and implemented to be able to achieve this. But what happens with other companies that have not achieved it?

So, well, as Nico was saying a little, it's not just the email servers, the websites , but also the forms, right? They accept and validate this type of Nicholas with an accent.

For example, I have an account in Adinet , to give an example, and I can't have Nicholas with an accent. Well, that's because it's not implemented or they're not compliant with this technology. So there are several examples of things that are ready and what isn't ready.

Nico already mentioned some, but we have those characters, those domains that are longer than three or four characters, for example, organic, that is an ID, we could not enter if we are not compliant, then what ends, for example, with Japanese letters, we also need to be compliant and then there we see a form where in the email it allowed us to put Japanese characters, there it is compliance in the sense of accessibility and well, not Ready is exactly when they only allow us to place ASCII URLs . There, it is not allowed to enter any other type of things that are not ASCII. We have the example of a Japanese page where the browser does not allow us to see it and well, the example of the bank where it does not accept the Japanese address.

So well, I don't know if you knew that peñarol.org exists and that peñarol.uy is registered, so they did something right there, on that server they allow us to have the ENIE, however, they don't have an MX server configured, that is, they don't have an email server under peñarol.org or peñarol.uy, so a Chinese person will never be able to send the fans their merchandise or whatever they want to do with it, because that's because... although it has a part of universalization which is having the domain with the ENIE, they don't have a mailbox enabled, for example, it's not to punish them here in particular, it was just an example to see how we have some examples in Uruguay of things that we could have registered, peñarol.org

And so last year we made a Python script based on which we have made a Python script based on which we have made a Python script based on which we have tronic of ley checker this one that basically last year we did with 100 servers we started to make a list of domains dotcom dot uy dot uy and things like that from the copsa transport code before the government things, things of the private public sector, free market company, orders, it is already a list of 100 companies, not quite random in all, and a script of the chapter and well that gave us some statistics of how many are ready or not in the sense of the emails of the servers and well there we have those that we have to applaud, which are the universities in particular, almost all of them, and that is good, but we have a pretty bad situation in Uruguay because only 97 percent of the servers, only 92 percent only

7% of the servers are compliant , 92% are not compliant and within those that are compliant we have 1% are servers that do not use a third party, for example, you

know that Outlook, Microsoft Azure or Gmail do support UA, that is, they are compliant , but well, then we separate those that used these from third parties which are 8% and only 1% of that 8, let's see, that is, of the 100, 1 have their own servers that are neither Outlook nor Google but there we see that clearly compared to the situation in India where Anil told us 26% were compliant here in Uruguay we have a quite different situation

And well I updated this this year instead of 100 I used a thousand companies from Uruguay and well a few more appeared that are compliant , that's quite good and I put some of the organizations that were registered today are in fact compliant there in the practice fund this but well there are quite a few organizations companies especially government ones you can see the public sector that are compliant but well if we look at the big picture the situation with a thousand servers gives us a little more going down right this is actually you could say that we are worse than last year not because we included more data than last year but well without a doubt there is a lot of work to do this one and well that was a bit of the idea of raising awareness today because we are here because we want it to reach 100% now we want everyone with some little things that you are going to see today in the afternoon of Nico dedicating them they are going to show you very very easily a child with a GPT chat could do it

You can configure your mail servers and also your DNS to accept the characters we're talking about, Chinese, Arabic, etc. Well, here's a slightly more detailed graph, where you can see what I was telling you about, the difference between your own servers and Outlook's. And well, this Python script is similar. I won't go into technical details, but basically, you ask it with a DIG which is the domain's MX server. Then we go to that, telnet to it on port 25 and ask it, as Nico mentioned, the HLO and we put whatever we want. And if it responds with a flag , which is SMTP UTF-8, it means it's compliant , at least up to that level, as Nico explained. I don't know what will happen with the intermediate servers, but at least at our level, we could have mailboxes with ASCII characters inside...

Audience Member :

What about mailboxes?

Nicolás Fiumarelli :

The email server, and well, everything the theoretical friends already explained to you. So, nothing, that, what does that 7% mean? What does it mean? Well, what we

were saying. I'm not going to be able to have an email address registered with María with an accent mark in some addresses, which is our own Uruguayan identity, right? There's a name called Iñaki, I don't know, with an ñ. You won't be able to use your name. I mean, there are cultural issues too. For example, it has to do with the fact that no one who is a foreigner, Chinese, or French, who wants to register with a bank in Uruguay will have any problems having their own email address or username in their own language.

So, nothing. This definitely represents a digital equity deficit in Uruguay. As Cristian said this morning, there's no clear-cut solution. There could very well be regulation, but we don't think it's the key to change. But it's a decision I want to make. Because it's not worth much for Ethereum. From the Internet Society perspective, but well, there are many ways to look at it. We're lagging. There are several factors at the technical level, many legacy systems that haven't been updated. That's one of the main reasons.

At the institutional level, obviously, there is a lack of sensitivity regarding these issues. Not everyone is talking about this. Sometimes we talk about literacy, inclusion, access, languages, but it is very general and this is very particular, it is not something very specific. Afterwards, as IT professionals, we are often not taught this at the university level. That is why there is a curriculum in the working group of universally accepted steering group that are proposing talking with universities from UNESCO there are camps to include this in the Curricula, that topic. And well, also in terms of regulation, as I was saying, we don't have public policies in Uruguay, there aren't any, that address this issue, right? With the specifics of, well, let's see, measurement, auditing, etc., these kinds of things.

So, nothing, we're not just talking about technical standards, we're talking about indigenous languages, people who have a cultural identity in Uruguay and won't be able to exercise that right to be in their own language, to have digital identities in their own languages. Not to mention the economic benefit, as our colleague Anil from India mentioned this morning, there's a huge loss of money from these potential businesses with these non-Latin addresses, which could be lost. Also, attracting millions of users to platforms that could be from other countries, we're not achieving that.

Someone wants to attend a concert at Antel Arena and goes to Ticantel, wants to register, and won't be able to put their name in French, they'll have to, but they're going to ask for my ID and I'll have everything in Chinese and how will they know, I mean, then that can cause problems, right? It can cause loss of users, this was just

an example, right? As always, and well, then the benefits obviously, effective communication, fostering innovation, giving you the possibility of having your username, can foster innovation, why can't the Ñandú Association of Uruguay have ñandú.com? Well, all those kinds of things, whether they like it or not, the DNS has a business behind it, right?

So, nothing, I would recommend starting to do some audits, implementing them in the forms. As Nico said, it's very important, not just on a technical level, and well, that's all, a bit of awareness about why we're here, right? And doing all this, and well, nothing. I hope you liked it, and any questions, feel free, okay?